



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Chad

President Appoints New Finance Minister

AB1609150693 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0730 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Excerpt] President Idriss Deby is unrelenting. He has appointed a new finance minister, (Miskine Izzo), to replace Robert Roygam, whom he dismissed. It is possible that transitional Prime Minister Fidele Moungar will also be given the sack. Our special envoy in Ndjamen, Jean-Claude Franck Medome, has more details on that:

[Begin Medome recording] The cohabitation between the head of state and the prime minister has had its day. That is the general impression one gets on the streets of Ndjamen from political leaders, President Deby's supporters, and the opposition. It is said everywhere that Prime Minister Moungar will soon be reprimanded by the Higher Transitional Council and a cabinet reshuffle will follow. Even without being put into practice, this theory confirms the seriousness of the crisis at the highest government level. In his address to the nation, President Deby made no secret of the degree of discord between him and the prime minister, who in the head of state's own words, quote, had shown, both in the management of public funds, and in his dealings with other transitional organs, heavy-handedness and amateurism, which are incompatible with the weighty and delicate task assigned to him, unquote.

Fidele Moungar's supporters, for their part, claim that the head of state had lately hampered attempts to lead the country toward a change of attitude that he himself seems to hope for. Regarding the theory of Mr. Fidele Moungar's dismissal, two men—General Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue, current civil service and labor minister, and (Berimasy Madingar), current director general of the COTONTCHAD company—are often tipped to replace him. The task will not be easy for either of them, because all Chadians are agreed that the transition is not making any headway and the reforms recommended by the Sovereign National Conference have been a long time in coming. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Rwanda

Government-RPF Delegation Meets UN Secretary General

EA1609210093 (Clandestine) Radio Muhabura in Kinyarwanda to Rwanda 1730 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Excerpt] The joint delegation made up of delegates from the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] and the Rwandan Government, which is headed by Foreign Minister Gasana Anastase, yesterday met UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali.

The RPF's head of international relations, Patrick Mazimpaka, who is also a member of the delegation, talked to (Shaka Sali) of the Voice of America and told him that

they had just explained to Butrus-Ghali the problems facing Rwanda and the urgent need for the UN troops.

Concerning when the troops will arrive, Butrus-Ghali said that they could arrive within two to three months, but in one week a battalion may be sent, which is about 600 soldiers. [passage omitted]

Zaire

Statement Condemns 'Biased' Amnesty Report

LD1709000593 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 2040 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Text] [Announcer] As I announced earlier in our program, we were expecting an important communique from the president to be read by Professor Kabuya Lumuna in this studio. I was saying that the hour of truth had come, and I know that you are impatient, but I remind Professor Kabuya [words indistinct]:

[Kabuya] This Thursday, 16 September 1993, some members of the international press once again brought to attention Amnesty International's publication of a damning report on the state of human rights in Zaire. The report singles out for condemnation the Republic's president and the special presidential division. It is surprising that this report is published on the eve of the meeting of the UN General Assembly, and, curiously, at the very moment when, in Kinshasa, talks are taking place within Zairian political circles aimed at putting a end to the multisided crisis that has been shaking our country for two years.

The publication of this report, just three months after the Amnesty International's annual conference in Geneva, is surprising on more than one count. Everyone knows the determining role played by the elements of the special presidential division in the suppression of the mutiny during the January 1993 troubles in Kinshasa and in reestablishing social peace in north Kivu. We might remember that the international press then praised this same special presidential division for having protected the lives of foreigners as well as Zairian nationals. Recently, the United Nations humanitarian mission, which visited Shaba and north Kivu, recognized the important role played by elements of the special presidential division in reestablishing and maintaining social peace in the regions they visited and where, moreover, the local population has demanded their presence.

Was it the best moment for Amnesty International to make things worse by publishing a report that makes allegations that are clearly biased and aimed only at sabotaging the ongoing political consultations, or at influencing certain international circles with the aim of destabilizing the Republic of Zaire? The Republic's presidency would like to remind those who dream of a Somalization of Zaire that they would do better to look elsewhere. Indeed, the important thing for now is to do everything to ensure the success of the current negotiations in order to secure the foundations of an irreversible pluralist democracy, respect for human rights, and equality and openness in the management of public affairs.

Ethiopia**Defense Budget Cut; Education Budget Increased**

EA0809213093 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 7 Sep 93

[Text] Ethiopia has cut its defense budget by 56 percent, while it has raised its education budget by 52.11 percent. Mrs. Weizero Genet Zewde, minister of education, and Ato [Mr.] Girma Biru, vice minister of defense, told reporters last week that the country's defense budget, which had reached to 2.3 billion birr in 1990-91 fiscal year [last year of Mengistu's regime], has been reduced to 700 million birr only during 1993-94. The officials on the other hand said Ethiopia's education budget, which has not exceeded 500 million birr before the formation of the transitional government, is [word indistinct] raised to over 1.1 billion birr—a budget allocated for 1993-94 fiscal year.

Kenya**UK Rejects Kenda Request for Constitutional Conference**

EA1609195093 Nairobi KNA in English 1620 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Text] Thika, Kenya, 16 Sep (KNA)—The British Government will not convene a constitutional conference on Kenya as requested by the Kenya National Democratic Alliance (Kenda) the second secretary (political) in the British High Commission in Nairobi Mr. Robin Gwynn has said.

In a letter addressed to the party's Deputy National Chairman Mr. Joram Kariuki and dated 10 September this year, Mr. Gwynn said that Kenya has been an independent country for almost 30 years and was capable of solving its own problems and issues affecting it. He said the British Government will, however, continue to promote democracy, transparency, and accountability in Kenya but emphasized that as a foreign government it had limits.

Mr. Gwynn was reacting to a memorandum which the Kenda prepared and handed over to the British minister for overseas development, Mrs. Linda Chalker, during her visit to Kenya in February this year requesting the British Government to facilitate holding of a constitutional conference in Kenya.

Mr. Gwynn's letter to the Kenda Secretariat was made available to the press by the party's chairman Mr. Mukaru Ng'ang'a. Mr. Ng'ang'a appealed to the rich Kenyans to contribute to national ideals.

Somalia**Somaliland Leader Gives UNOSOM Deadline for Assistance**

EA1609160593 (Clandestine) Radio Hargeysa Voice of the Republic of Somaliland in Somali 1130 GMT 14 Sep 93

[Excerpts] Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Egal, president of Somaliland, met the two bodies of the Republic of Somaliland—the Council of Representatives and the Council of Elders [the two chambers of Parliament]—and the Council of Ministers in the conference room of the Justice Ministry on 14 September.

Egal delivered a report on the current situation in the country and the need for austerity in the effort to build this country and help its people. The president said that every citizen is required to participate in the reconstruction of this country, which now lies in ruins. The president said there is no bone of contention and no tug of war between the people of the country; therefore, the country should be stabilized and efforts should be made to help the people. He said no one can do much by himself and the only way forward is to do it together and in unison. The president therefore called for progress in achieving unity between the people and in the Republic of Somaliland. Egal's speech on 14 September included the following:

[Begin Egal recording] I have come to report to you today on the country's progress, the government's achievements, and on its future plans for the country. [passage omitted]

While in Boorama [western Somaliland], we told ourselves that we are engaged in national service towards a country and a people that have been destroyed. We want to heal the spirits of the people and work for the reconstruction of the country. We were in Boorama with much goodwill, unity, and togetherness. It appears that since then, some friction has developed. I point this out not as a complaint or reprimand, but to say that today Somalia is in a trap, and as the proverb teaches, we should work to salvage but not force to hurt. [passage omitted]

The programs of the government will be presented to you one by one by the appropriate officials. They do not have money. None of them has an office. They will bring you estimates, plans, and hope. [passage omitted] We will make this country stable and ready for elections after two years. There will be a police force, an army, a field force [preceding two words in English] and an established administration so that foreign observers can witness the elections. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Egal later spoke about the reticence of the UN Operation in Somalia [UNOSOM] in Somaliland:

[Begin Egal recording] [passage omitted] I met the UNOSOM representative in Hargeysa. After a long

discussion, we reached an agreement. I told him that the country has now regained its independence. Elders, youth, intellectuals, and religious figures have held successive conferences to work toward reconciling the people, ironing out any differences and creating unity and solidarity among themselves. They have completed these conferences. The last one was held in Shiikh. They later visited Boorama, where political issues were finalized. The process took five months. Today there is a two-chamber Parliament. A government has been established, and a president has been elected to head a government. Such is the cohesion of the country and its people, who have sorted themselves out without any involvement on the part of UNOSOM. [passage omitted]

We tolerated UNOSOM's presence in the hope that they would assist us economically. This has not been the case, however, and the situation has become intolerable. Therefore, recently, at about midnight, I called the man concerned [the UNOSOM representative], after consultations with our men. I expressed our displeasure. I said that if UNOSOM did not give us a satisfactory answer about assisting in the reconstruction of the country, halting further problems, and cooperating for the common good and unity of the country by 14 September, then UNOSOM's work would cease. [applause] That was our understanding. The representative brought a reply from Admiral Howe on 13 September. But to put it bluntly, UNOSOM has the habit of not giving straight answers to straight questions. [passage omitted]

We called the man and told him that this reply from Admiral Howe did not give the expected answers. We asked whether he had any message or otherwise [word indistinct]. Some of us felt sorry for the representative, because he looked very concerned. He asked us for a 24-hour extension—that is, until 2000 on 14 September—to consult UNOSOM Headquarters before announcing the evacuation order. We (?told him to reply) about the Sool and Sanaag regions and to declare openly in writing that they are part of Somaliland [word indistinct] to no longer split this country, but to contribute to its interests and construction. I told him we would wait for 24 hours if that condition is met. [end recording]

Egal, president of the Republic of Somaliland, continued his speech by saying that if UNOSOM did not bring a clear answer by 2000 on 14 September, then the Government of the Republic of Somaliland would make a final decision that it should leave the country.

Pro-Aidid Radio Reports Anti-U.S. Rally in Mogadishu

EA1609193193 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Excerpts] A huge rally attended by religious leaders, intellectuals, women, youths, and people from all levels of society was held today in 1 July Square, Mogadishu. The rally, organized to display the Somali people's opposition to the activities of the U.S. fledgling colonialists in Somalia, opened with a koranic reading and sermon by Shaykh Mohamoud Awaleh, who said it was obligatory to fight with infidels who want to colonize an Islamic country and Muslim people.

Speaking at the rally, Hawo Awaleh Abtidon, alias Hawo Yere, chairwoman of the United Somali Congress [USC] women's organization, sent condolences to the Somali people for the Somalis massacred by the enemies, saying that the UN Operation in Somalia [UNOSOM] was generally the enemy of the Somali people. Another speaker, Engineer Mohamoud Mireh, spoke about the usefulness of the country and patriotism and the need to jointly counter the infidels. [passage omitted]

Finally, Mr. Abdi Hassan Awaleh Qaydid, internal affairs secretary, addressed the rally and said that UNOSOM and the United States have fizzled out and the world has unanimously called for the cessation of massacres of children and women. The European Community, the Arab League, and Islamic countries had said the country's internal affairs should be left to the Somalis. Mr. Qaydid said the northern regions [the republic of Somaliland] had closed the UNOSOM office there and they had sent a goodwill message to the southern people: Somalia is one with one flag, and Somalia will unite.

The objective of the infidels is neocolonialism. We should defend ourselves against the U.S.-led infidels, God willing, Abdi Qaydid concluded. [passage omitted] The rally ended peacefully.

SNA Spokesman Denies Supporters Killed Italian Troops

EA1609193693 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Text] A spokesman for the Somali National Alliance [SNA] has denied a report broadcast today by the Voice of Ethiopia Somali Service. The spokesman said the SNA and its supporters were not responsible for yesterday's killing of two Italian soldiers who were reported to have been killed in Mogadishu.

De Klerk, IFP's Buthelezi Hold Meeting on Negotiations**Buthelezi Says Meeting 'Pointless'***MB1609155893 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1549 GMT 16 Sep 93**[By political correspondent Pierre Claassen]*

[Text] Cape Town September 16 SAPA—KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi told President F W de Klerk on Thursday that he believed their meeting was a waste of time and pointless.

He also said he would not have arrived at today's ministerial summit meeting at the presidential Tuynhuys offices had he not already undertaken to meet Mr de Klerk.

His objection was based on the fact that the government was proceeding with the Transitional Executive Council Bill, "rushing it through Parliament and then pausing to gain acceptance for it before actually implementing it".

Chief Buthelezi dropped a political bombshell by releasing to SAPA his opening remarks to the high-level meeting which started in the cabinet room shortly after 10am.

The decision to release his opening remarks appears to indicate that he is preparing for failure of the talks as his breach of confidentiality, observers say, cannot indicate empathetic progress.

The strongly negative tone of the address enforces this view and is certain to spark confrontation at the talks now in progress at Tuynhuys. Chief Buthelezi repeated his threat to resign as IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] leader rather than accept the envisaged TEC [Transitional Executive Council] and elections for a constituent assembly.

His statement again accuses the government of having made bilateral deals with the ANC [African National Congress] and implementing them via the World Trade Centre talks. "I am aware of the crisis in which we meet," he said. He did not want to proceed to the new South Africa through crisis management and was fully committed to negotiations as the only way forward.

It was because of a deep commitment to peace and negotiations that he had supported the kwaZulu government and IFP decisions to withdraw from the World Trade Centre [WTC] negotiations.

"At the very heart of the problem, there is the kwaZulu experience of being left out of crucial behind-the-scenes negotiations in which the government concluded deals with the ANC. Negotiations were not truly multi-party in nature."

Secret agreements were processed through the WTC Negotiating Council and no objection by either the kwaZulu government [KZG] or the IFP, no matter how

fundamental, could stop the process towards a two-phase transition and the election of a constituent assembly.

"I feel very strongly about this. I will not walk that road," Chief Buthelezi said.

"I have said publicly that if the IFP wanted to walk that road I would call for an extraordinary general conference of the party. If that turned out to be the will of the people, I would resign my leadership position.

"That is how strongly I feel and I mean this and maybe this is the solution for everyone, that I should get out of the way as I will not be part of it."

The government still intended to take the TEC bill, negotiated at the World Trade Centre in the absence of the IFP/KZG, through Parliament in the present short session, and to implement it next month.

"My response was to say that if that was the case there was just no point in me meeting with you today, Mr President.

"The notion of rushing it through the Negotiating Council, and then through Parliament, and then pausing to attempt to gain acceptance for it before actually implementing it, will only add political insult to political injury.

"Once something is a fait accompli it remains a fait accompli. That is why I felt that if I had not already undertaken to meet you today I would see no point in coming here to see you as it seems to be a waste of your time, as well as your ministers' time and my ministers' time."

Last November Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer was quoted as saying that negotiations would go on without Chief Buthelezi and the IFP, if he did not fall into line. Although denied, it had been confirmed at an IFP Central Committee meeting that Mr Meyer had been correctly quoted.

ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa also very clearly said on the 15th of June, that the process could continue without him, as did Mr Nelson Mandela.

"You, Mr President, came as near as anything to saying so when you said that I would be left behind if I was 'totally unreasonable'—my 'unreasonableness' being my reluctance or refusal to fall in line with decisions flowing from the Record of Understanding (of September 28 1992)."

There was no need to discuss whether these things had been said or not as deed had been added to word.

"The process did not even pause when the kwaZulu government and the IFP delegations walked out of the World Trade Centre negotiations as an expression of their democratic right to do so," Chief Buthelezi said.

The Government of South Africa went on with the ANC/SACP [South African Communist Party] alliance

to complete the envisaged time-table and to proceed far enough to enable the bills to be rushed through Parliament this month.

"That, by definition in action, is going on without me," he said.

He complained again about Mr de Klerk going ahead with the bilateral negotiations in the face of his opposition to it.

"I am not harping on things that happened a long time ago. I am talking about what is happening now. It is now, Mr President, that you and your negotiators are leaving me out."

Issue Statement Afterward

MB1609174093 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1710 GMT 16 Sep 93

[By political correspondent Pierre Claassen]

[Text] Cape Town September 16 SAPA—The SA and kwaZulu governments have reached an agreement to strive towards five common constitutional objectives and to consolidate their gains through further intensive consultation. In a joint statement presented to the media by President F W de Klerk and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi at the conclusion of eight hours of talks, they agreed to try and avoid future divisive disagreements and misunderstandings through bilateral talks.

The statement as a whole represents a considerable advance on acrimonious statements made by Chief Buthelezi at the 10 am start of talks.

Both leaders told the media conference that discussions had been direct and fundamental without skirting the issues.

"I believe today laid the basis of a solution to some of the problems and that we stand at the beginning of a new period of constructive co-operation between the SA and kwaZulu governments," Mr de Klerk said.

Chief Buthelezi said the day's progress did not signal the return of the IFP/KZG [Inkatha Freedom Party/kwaZulu government] to the multi-party talks yet.

"I confirm what the state president said. We had very intensive and serious discussions without attempting to skirt any issues."

Their joint statement of intent records the in-depth discussions on a number of matters of current national concern, including the problem of violence, and various aspects of the negotiation process.

It records that the delegation "explored a number of possibilities which could lead to a resolution of the current impasse identifying five areas in which they would strive towards common objectives.

These were: a constitutional state; a constitutional court; universal fundamental rights; comprehensive constitutional principles; and the powers, functions and boundaries of regions or states.

"The two sides agreed that they would further pursue some of the gains already made in bilateral negotiations through further intensive consultation and discussions.

"In this way they would also determine the reasons for the present impasse in the negotiation process which had led to a lack of inclusivity, as well as the need to address the necessity for full participation in finalising the constitution."

A joint committee to address the issue of violence was being established.

The statement represents a major advance in the dialogue between the governments and appears to hint at mutual recognition of the inevitability of the IFP/KZG's return to talks before the finalisation of the interim constitution next month.

Two teams would start meeting in a week's time to address the difficulties between them.

The day's talks were at an exceptionally high-profiled ministerial level with the two leaders flanked by 11 delegates each around the oval cabinet table.

The accusatory opening remarks of Chief Buthelezi, released late during the afternoon, created distinct fears that the summit may fail, but NP [National Party] sources said that the direction changed after the lunch hour.

Chief Buthelezi had again reproached the state president and his government for excluding him from secret deals with the ANC [African National Congress], not taking his objections seriously in the past, and threatening to continue without him.

His unscheduled release of his address which was tantamount to a breach of the confidentiality of the discussions and seen as a possible challenge to and rejection of the government's overtures to bring the IFP/KZG back into the process.

The announcement of a joint media conference, shortly before 6pm put a more positive prospect on the matter.

This was immediately confirmed by NP observers at Tuynhuys.

"By lunchtime we were no longer talking about the past but about the future," a senior National Party source said.

The seniority of the teams clearly illustrated the serious nature of the talks.

President de Klerk was backed by all four National Party provincial leaders - Mr Pik Botha (Transvaal), Mr Kobie Coetsee (OFS, [Orange Free State]), Dr Dawie de Villiers

(Cape) and Mr George Bartlett (Natal)—were present along with the regular ministerial constitutional negotiators—Mr Roelf Meyer (constitutional development), Mr Leon Wessels (manpower), Dr Tertius Delport (local government), Mr Andre Fourie (regional affairs), Mr Danie Schutte (home affairs)—as well as Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel and Education and Training and National Housing Minister Sam de Beer.

Across the oval table Chief Buthelezi's team included his chief negotiators in the Inkatha Freedom Party and kwaZulu government delegations to the World Trade Centre, Dr Frank Mdlalose, Dr Ben Ngubane, Mr Joe Matthews, Professor Harriet Ngubane and Mr Walter Felgate.

Also in the kwaZulu government team were Chief Simon Gumede, Dr Dennis Madide and the Reverend S J Mtetwa.

On arrival Chief Buthelezi marched stern-faced through a gathering of press and TV journalists. He refused to respond to questions.

Only Dr Mdlalose spoke briefly saying he was not prepared to comment on the content of the talks but added:

"We are hoping to find one another. It's a simple matter of being heard and hearing each other."

He and the delegation were hopeful of a positive outcome. Eight hours later it appears their hopes were realised.

Agree on Further Bilateral Talks

MB1609182793 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Text] There's hope yet that the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] will return to the negotiating table. After more than eight hours of discussions with the state president, kwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi said no final decision had been made. But in a joint statement a short while ago, the South African and kwaZulu governments said they had reached an agreement to strive towards five common constitutional objectives. The two sides also agreed to try to avoid further disagreements and misunderstandings through bilateral talks. The two leaders addressed a joint news conference in Tuynhuys a short while ago:

[Begin recording] [De Klerk] I believe that today has laid the basis for a solution of some of the problems referred to in the statement, and I'm confident that we will—through the further communication and deliberations in two forums referred to, namely two teams meeting on constitutional issues and procedures in that regard, and the other teams with regard to the violence issue—that we stand at the beginning of a new period of constructive cooperation between the South African Government and the kwaZulu government.

[Buthelezi] I'm hoping, just as the state president is hoping, that the two teams that are going to meet... [pauses] that has been set up today, might make more progress in their discussions, probably in a week's time, and also after that. [end recording]

Buthelezi Comments After Meeting

MB1609210893 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1830 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Interview with Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Inkatha Freedom Party leader and kwaZulu chief minister, by announcer Lester Venter during the "Agenda" program in Cape Town—recorded]

[Text] [Venter] Chief Minister, seeing from the outside, there was an expectation today, indeed perhaps even a hope, that the talks between you and President de Klerk would find a way that would bring the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] back to the talks. Now, after eight hours of discussion, it seems that the two of you have decided only to talk some more. What was the sticking point between you?

[Buthelezi] Well, Mr. Venter, let me correct you that it was not the IFP that was in the talks. I was there as chief minister with a delegation of the kwaZulu government. Well, I think from the very word go it wasn't expected that, I think from both sides, that today we'd be able to say this is the solution, because the matter has become too complicated and there are some very serious fundamental issues involved in it. So that therefore, I believe myself that it was too optimistic for anyone to think that in this matter, with so many dimensions, that we could have reached a point where we just go back to the talks. But I believe that we addressed the issues—fundamental issues with regard to the constitution. I think that we were very open about what has led to the present impasse, and I think that having looked at that from both sides, we decided then to set up the two teams that were there as a committee that is going to meet to look further on how to resolve the problem of the impasse, because the impasse is a fact, that we do have this deadlock.

[Venter] Would it be fair to say that it's essentially issues of the constitution—i.e., lack of federalism—and secondly the process of decisionmaking at negotiations that are your main areas of concern?

[Buthelezi] Yes, those are the main areas of concern, and the process itself, because we think the process itself is flawed, and this is the reason why in the first place the kwaZulu government even took the matter to court: because the problem of sufficient consensus is not (?resolved) for us. So, therefore, that is the issue that we discussed, and it was clear therefore that there are some issues in which we didn't know whether we are on the same side as far as the state president and the government is concerned; I mean about the constitution state, for instance about the constitutional court, about the fundamental principles of human rights, and also about comprehensive constitution principles.

[Venter] Nevertheless, these do fall into those two broad areas. And now the meeting between you and President de Klerk amounts to something of a summit. Were the two of you in eight hours not able to make any real progress on those two broad areas?

[Buthelezi] To be quite open, you know, Mr. Venter, I think progress was made because personally, when I came I did not even think that there was anything to discuss with President de Klerk. So I think that progress was made in so far as we were open with each other—very, very open with each other—as to what has led to the problems that we face and to the extent that we both then looked at how the way forward can be found, and the result of that, of course, is the appointment of this committee, which represents both sides.

[Venter] May I ask you what your personal expectations are from this committee?

[Buthelezi] Well, there is a very serious problem I must say, because this two-phase process is something that we really don't accept. As the government of kwaZulu, we don't accept that. But at the same time, we realize that the state president regarded this as something that comes from him, so that is how the deadlock has come about. So we hope that therefore the two teams will get into this issue and find out whether there is a way, because one of the things that worry us, you know Mr. Venter, is the fact that this issue of interim government, this issue of transition arrangements, this issue of transition fundamental rights—which we don't think fundamental rights can ever be transitional—we expect human rights to be full and to be, you know, not transitional. So clearly, therefore, it seems to me that we must find a way perhaps which can accommodate our views, because as far as I'm concerned, I cannot see how I can, you know, battle in an election for who's going to write a constitution. On the other hand, I see that the state president is also locked into a position where he says the two-phase system was his suggestion, so therefore one hopes that the two committees then will go into those issues and see where there's any way forward.

[Venter] Nevertheless, chief minister, your cautious language would lead one to deduce that the chances are not excessively great. So may I ask you then if you would explore for a moment the consequences of your government and your party staying out of what is currently the mainstream of negotiations, permanently?

[Buthelezi] No, but I think that both sides accept that—I think the state president, in fairness to him, has reiterated that, you know, talks without us are not (?conclusive) and on the other hand I sympathize with him because when he is being realistic to that extent, then you people in the media clobber him by saying that he is trying to, you know, massage my ego which is... which is far from the case. I mean, after all, I stayed away from negotiating with the government because Mr. Mandela, other political prisoners, political exiles were not there when I said that I would not participate...

[Venter, interrupting] But I mean, Chief Minister, particularly looking forward, what are the consequences for yourself and for the country as a whole, of your party, your government staying out of the talks?

[Buthelezi] Well, I suppose that depends on whether in fact it is imaginable that, you know, the large settlement of South Africans that we represent can in fact be dictated to. Of course we have been used to, you know, to unilateral impositions by various governments even before the National Party came into power. We black people were just told, I mean, the government, you know, in power always knew what was best for us. Now if that style is going to go on, you know, on the basis that there are some black faces as well—we resisted that and we'll resist it if we cannot find a way forward.

[Venter] What do you mean by resist it?

[Buthelezi] Insofar as we resisted apartheid. We never accepted apartheid. We never accepted fragmentation of the country under the government's policy, under the...

[Venter, interrupting] Forgive me, your resistance of apartheid was nonviolent. Will your resistance remain nonviolent?

[Buthelezi] Well, yes. It has always been nonviolent, of course. I've always believed in nonviolence, but I cannot dictate, you know, and predict like a prophet, you know, how it will stand out because we are in a situation where there are tensions because there is already a low intensity civil war. My people are being killed. Members of the IFP are being killed, so tensions are very high already and if there is no rapprochement, quite clearly, these tensions are going to get higher, so in those circumstances I cannot guarantee—however much I am committed to peaceful solutions myself—I cannot guarantee that... that something else will not happen.

[Venter] Chief Minister, I think the implications of your words are clear so may I put what I imagine to be an anxiety that all South Africans hold as a final question, clearly, and if you could answer this clearly as possible: If there is no resolution by this committee that's been established today, what will the IFP and the kwaZulu government do?

[Buthelezi] Well, let me say, Mr. Venter, in my leadership, you know, I have always consulted. I never decide things alone just because I'm the chief minister. I have a joint responsibility with members of the cabinet. I have a joint responsibility with members of the assembly. Now as far as the kwaZulu government, which is in that capacity alone that I can speak because I didn't come here to speak for the IFP today. I came here as the head of the kwaZulu government. I would say that I will consult... I will consult my colleagues in the assembly, also in cabinet and only then can I know what we'll do.

[Venter] Chief Minister, thank you very much for joining us tonight.

[Buthelezi] Thank you, Mr. Venter.

South African Press Review for 17 Sep

MB1709123193

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Minister Takes "Obdurate" Stand on Gasoline Price Increase—Energy Affairs Minister George Bartlett "appears to have adopted an obdurate stand" in defense of his latest gasoline price hike, notes a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 17 September. "Faced with fierce opposition from a wide range of forces, including direct action from angry black taxi drivers Bartlett counters that the increase is based on sound business principles and that he will not be bulldozed into rash decisions." But, "now is not the time for political machismo." Bartlett's tasks are "to defuse the immediate crisis" and "to strive for a long-term solution." "The time has come to end protective measures and open the economy to greater competition, not rashly but deliberately."

Call for Interim Constitution Referendum—A front page "Comment" believes there is "only one truly democratic method of discovering whether the majority of South Africans approve of the route mapped out by the multi-party negotiators at Kempton Park—and that is to hold a snap referendum on the interim constitution as soon as its details have been finalised." A referendum is "the best way of refuting the argument that the wishes of the citizens of kwaZulu, Bophuthatswana and the Ciskei, as well as the Afrikaner nation, are being overridden, and demonstrating beyond question where the will of the nation lies. We urge the Negotiating Council to give the matter serious and urgent consideration."

BUSINESS DAY

NP Fails To Deliver on Federalism Promises—John Kane-Berman, the executive director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, writes on page 6 of

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 17 September that: "One reason for the NP's [National Party] ineffectiveness in fighting for federalism is its own confusion." At the end of August 1992, President de Klerk reiterated that federalism meant "'a high degree of autonomy, reasonable sources of taxation, meaningful functions on a wide range of matters, exclusive powers in respect of certain functions' and 'security' that these things could not be taken away. It is now 18 months since De Klerk's referendum statement about maximum powers for regions. Yet not only are there no exclusive regional powers in the transitional constitution, but no region may levy taxes without approval of the central government. It is difficult to see how such regions can be said to have 'a high degree of autonomy'." "Vague talk of success seems somehow to be obfuscating the NP's failure—so far at any rate—to secure the entrenchment of federalism promised in the referendum and repeatedly thereafter." Kane-Berman notes that negotiators at the World Trade Center "have succeeded in creating the impression that federalism has been entrenched. Words such as 'breakthrough' abound in newspaper headlines. But invariably, when agreements are studied, the supposed breakthroughs are accompanied by sheer fudge or enough small print to make them meaningless."

SOWETAN

IFP Vital for Peaceful Settlement—A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 17 September hopes the talks between the President de Klerk and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) "succeed." "As one of the major political organizations in the country, the IFP is also seen to represent one of the biggest and most respected tribes in South Africa—the Zulus." Therefore, SOWETAN is not "blind" to the "importance of having the IFP right up there finally to help govern the country." SOWETAN hopes the African National Congress (ANC) is "strong enough to help and encourage the talks between the Government and the IFP. In fact, a signal must be sent to Chief Buthelezi that he is vitally important to a peaceful settlement in South Africa."

Angola

President dos Santos Delivers Message to Nation

MB1609213993 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1924 GMT 16 Sep 93

[“Message to the nation” by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Luanda on 16 September; monitored in progress—recorded]

[Text] ...to establish the standard framework for constructive and honest management; to create a favorable environment for economic, social, and cultural agents to do their work; and to promote a judicial system that is both stable and trustworthy. Initially, this should provide a public administration with quality. It will rely on the Angolan citizen and it will systematically look after his training and development. It will guarantee national security and defense, and it will protect infrastructure as well as social services that are basically indispensable, leaving private, joint, or state economic agents to produce goods and services that respect the rules of the market social economy. Within the framework of a pluralist and market economy society, the life of the nation must become both more normal and dynamic. This should happen within a clear, logical, and consistent legal framework. In line with that, it is up to the National Assembly to lead positive parliamentary action by promoting dialogue so as to define and distribute responsibilities among the state, civilian society, and private sector, and also between central and local administration. It must also take into account the traditional authorities and the people at large.

As a result, legislative initiatives must be taken to complement the Second Republic's legal and institutional framework, as well as the establishment of institutions in terms of the Constitutional Law. By the same token, economic legislation must be reviewed and updated so it is brought into line with the new economic policy and the new leadership and management system. The challenge facing the government is to overcome today's difficult living conditions, to plan the growth of productivity at work, and to achieve progressive growth in the national output as well as its balanced distribution. The government must act to stop the speculative economy and social degradation, thereby ensuring a productive economy and, therefore, basic social conditions for the people, thereby correcting regional development imbalances. Those aims will not be achieved from one day to the next. The national development plan will define the shape, the time frame, and the means to achieve those aims. The areas requiring priority action must be used to seek improved national capabilities, to create a climate that offers incentives, to promote the people's well-being, to encourage the productive sector, and to obtain the necessary financing.

The improvement of national capabilities must be assured by strengthening the government's capability to

analyze economic management policies, to defend strategic objectives, to ensure public calm for the citizens, to guarantee incentives aimed at encouraging production and efficiency, and to give priority to existing infrastructure relating to social and productive work.

Given that investment in the people's well-being is an absolute priority, by improving public health, fighting famine, updating the education and training systems, guaranteeing social housing, promoting Angolan entrepreneurship, creating employment and taking into account the fact that growth neither obligatorily reduces poverty nor guarantees food security, the government's policies and actions must ensure an improved distribution of revenue.

In the productive sector, the agricultural sector will have to square up to a mammoth task because it is the principal source for food security and growth. It will be necessary for us to achieve sufficient growth in the (?production) of food with a view to doing away with shortages and reducing food imports. Within that context, those goals require the transformation and expansion of the productive capacity of agriculture, the mobilization of the private sector, an effort to adapt to agricultural technology, and efforts to safeguard natural resources in a rural environment. Within this framework, industry must rely principally on increased agricultural production and rentability. The new impulse for industrialization will have to be linked to the national economy. It must be told to process agricultural surpluses and it must give farming the goods and equipment needed to step up its productivity. It must also assure the provision of other goods useful to the people's social well-being.

The regionalization of national development through the provinces will be the right path to correct general economic development imbalances in each province. Administrative decentralization must be enshrined with a view to increasing local creativity and initiative as well as guaranteeing sufficient autonomy to the local governments, which must have their own revenue, principally used to manage the expansion of social and community services, along with the acquisition of certain import goods.

With the aim of ensuring increased hard currency revenue and long-term growth, we must use favorable policies to conduct a balanced exploitation of oil and mineral wealth. Within this context, it will be convenient for the government to enjoy a balanced relationship with foreign investors, thereby guaranteeing the defense and security of areas under exploitation, the repatriation of profits, a just and stable fiscal management, and a code of conduct that is attractive.

Turning to the international context, the Republic of Angola has recognized the need for strengthening regional ties and world relations. The nature of this international activity by the Angolan state will aim at economic integration, securing foreign development aid, and helping settle international problems. The Angolan

state will always try to honor its undertakings, which include the foreign debt problem. Although the government is only too well aware of how extremely difficult it is for us to settle it—principally because of the concentration of short term loans—the government will nevertheless take concrete measures to satisfy our creditors. The government will try not to impose many more sacrifices nor seriously aggravate the already dire situation experienced by the people. The Angolan Government will also ask for an understanding response to the request that some of that debt be forgiven.

The building of the legal and democratic state that we all aspire to will never happen unless we urgently and firmly reform the judicial system. That is because we cannot continue accepting situations whereby the citizens' rights are flagrantly violated. Given that the principle of independence for the state judicial organs has already been entrenched with regard to legislative and executive powers, we must now give dignity to and protect the work of the magistrates, judges and jurists. We must promote the training and (?improvement) of cadres at all levels as well as define the organization and functioning of judicial organs, registry and notary services, and ensure that installations and material means are in place to ensure justice for all and to use justice as the golden rule for state activity. These guidelines are the first steps along the road which we believe to be the right road. Nevertheless, those guidelines can only be implemented if they reflect national consensus, which must be achieved through debate encouraged by the media, university, and other institutions. The general guidelines of the emergency program, which we hope to have implemented by early next year, already enjoy broad social consensus.

The last three months of this year should see the beginning of the discussion of the general foundations for the strategic development plan, which should lead to the stabilization of the country's life. The strategy to be adopted gives the state the role of major promoter of national entrepreneurship's social and productive activity. It defines the national entrepreneur and the foreign investor as the principal agents for employment and production. It also allows the citizen to actively participate in the national development effort by controlling his own life. As we have said before, we trust in the capacity and creativity of the Angolan people. We want to give priority and attach greater value to national human resources and to their work without any discrimination or falsehood. We want to act differently from those who falsely claim that the Angolan people would always come first, when in fact they put them through massive elimination practices or merciless suffering. Our agenda must include boosting society's morale and managing public affairs. We must always keep it in mind, though, that legal measures mean nothing if the spirit of the institutions and the dynamics of society do not change.

Some of those measures must be carefully thought out and tried, notably the matter of resolving differences over the administration issue. The relevant plans are in the National Assembly and even at the Supreme Court.

The judicial institutions must be revitalized at all administrative division levels. Legal documents that have already been drawn up must be approved in search for greater clarity, honesty, and responsibility concerning services and public affairs.

Furthermore, there is the need for exemplary, consistent, and competent behavior by those holding political posts, notably deputies, ministers, state secretaries, and so forth. This applies to legislative and executive personnel discharging their duties and in conformity with the present situation. Greater attention must be given to observing existing laws, including the Law on Holders of Political Posts, notably the section on the need for declaring earnings and private commercial practices. The Law on Economic Crimes must also be observed, notably with regard to the portion that deals with passive and active corruption, as well as receiving commissions on commercial contracts. It is also important to strengthen sectorial inspection organs, notably in the finance, trade, and industrial sectors. The cadres in the state apparatus must continue to be trained at all levels to know the existing laws and regulations as well as to implement disciplinary norms currently in force, so cadres will have greater responsibilities.

Military and paramilitary institutions and their members must show greater zeal and professional ethics in discharging their state functions. School programs must be devised to instill greater civility, better ethics, and social decency, thereby guaranteeing the contribution of all public and social entities such as churches, and social, professional, as well as cultural associations.

There are many problems and tasks that need to be resolved. We are all well aware that no one will solve them for us. There are no foreign solutions to our internal problems. The challenge facing Angola at this stage is to invert the present state of war, the decline in living standards, and national development regression. Steeped in their traditions of solidarity and of struggle, the Angolan people have the potential to achieve it. Immense natural resources are available to them. They can also eventually count on foreign development aid.

I am sure that our soldiers will continue to receive sympathy and solidarity from the nation as a whole. I am also certain that our generous youth will once again be in the front line to respond to all our people's call for peace. This has already been borne out by their turning out in massive numbers at recruitment points and by the example given by former demobilized soldiers and even common citizens who promptly enlisted to support the Angolan Armed Forces when they realized that the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leadership did not want to abide by the people's wishes as conveyed at the polls. This is still a time for fighting and making sacrifices. UNITA is oppressing people in those areas it occupies. It is destroying national property. It wants to oppress all of us. The full liberation of our people will hinge on our struggle. If all Angolans and all civilian organizations unite and show a readiness

to make a few more sacrifices, I am certain that in a short time we will have created the conditions needed for ensuring the country's development on the basis of peace, national unity, democracy, well-being, and prosperity. We must force UNITA to stop the war and to abide by its status as a civilian political party, in terms of the law.

We salute the condemnation of UNITA as reiterated yesterday by the UN Security Council, along with its intention to apply sanctions against that rebel group. Nonetheless, we must also express our great disappointment over the fact that that international organization continues to dither over the implementation of immediate sanctions against those who insist on not respecting the UN Security Council's decisions, on intensifying the war, and on uselessly extending the suffering of the Angolan people. That stand only reinforces our perception and belief that we must really rely on our own forces and go on to generalize resistance on all fronts until all areas occupied by UNITA have been completely freed, thereby forcing it to do away once and for all with its illegal army and abide by its status as a political party. We place our trust in the unequalled qualities that the Angolan people have shown. Of their own choice on 29 and 30 September of last year, they took Angola into their hearts and placed the country on the path to peace, multiparty democracy, and national reconstruction.

On the basis of our compatriots' heroic resistance in Cuito, I hereby call on all Angolan people from Cabinda Province to Cunene Province, and from the sea to eastern Angola, to join their efforts and energies so we can achieve our aims. We can only achieve peace by overwhelming UNITA's dictatorship. That peace will finally open the way to Angola's freedom, prosperity, and development.

Victory is certain.

Notes Need To Alter Military Balance

MB1709083793 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 Sep 93

[Excerpts] President of the Republic Jose Eduardo dos Santos this afternoon addressed a message to the nation on the country's dramatic social, political, and economic situation. [passage omitted]

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos described Angola's present situation as one of war and sacrifice, because the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] is oppressing the people.

[Begin Dos Santos recording] This is still a time for fighting and for making sacrifices. UNITA is oppressing people in the areas it occupies. It is destroying national property, and it wants to oppress all of us. The people's full liberation will hinge on our struggle. [passage omitted] Thus, the state's principal task must be to defeat the rebellion and neutralize internal armed subversion by the UNITA and the Front for the Liberation

of the Cabinda Enclave leaderships. This task requires a coherent set of political measures and firm military operations by the government and the Angolan Armed Forces. We must determine in the near future those options that will allow us to define the country's major defense lines in accordance with national development needs. The process of rebuilding and reorganizing the Armed Forces must be rendered more dynamic. It must cover the domains of (?theory), organization, military preparedness, discipline, and attention to the soldier. We must move forward in a decisive manner so as to render increasingly advantageous to us the balance of power on the ground, thereby forcing the UNITA military wing to respect the constitutional order that was established with the signing of the Bicesse Accord and the acceptance of democratic legitimacy arising from the September 1992 elections. The options, which already have been adopted, allow the country to resort to foreign military aid so that it can rehabilitate and restore its military equipment. That technical assistance will be rendered within the context and norms of international law and in accordance with our right to self-defense. [end recording]

Jose Eduardo dos Santos said he trusted in the capabilities and creativity of the Angolan people. [passage omitted]

The Angolan head of state advised that urgent measures need to be implemented to reduce public spending, increase the general state budget revenue, reduce the deficit, speed up fiscal reform, increase the collection of funds, improve organization, increase the effectiveness of customs services, improve harbor and airport services, achieve greater control over roads and the outflow of people and merchandise, accelerate the reconstruction of the banking system, restructure the financial market, encourage and mobilize internal savings and hard currency fixed deposits, adopt a correct foreign exchange policy, and create productivity incentives. The president of the Republic expressed the view that planned economic and social programs will only become possible if they are backed by effective military action guaranteeing stability.

UNITA's Valentim: Speech 'Miserable'

MB1709070893 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 Sep 93

[Text] While the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] is making efforts for peace, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party chief, has insisted on war. From Abidjan, in an interview with the BBC this morning, UNITA Information Secretary Dr. Jorge Alicerces Valentim discussed the bellicose undertones in the speech delivered by Eduardo dos Santos:

[Begin recording] [Valentim] It was a very poor speech. I would say it was miserable. It was a speech unfit for a head of state. It was not at the level you would expect from a president of the Republic. In addition to that, he was extremely nervous and very [word indistinct] regarding the issues of UNITA and peace. He had no solutions to the

various problems currently facing the Angolan people. In view of that, I can say that we do not support that speech and that we are completely disappointed.

[Unidentified correspondent] You say you are disappointed with the speech delivered by President dos Santos. What did UNITA expect from the president's speech?

[Valentim] Well, we expected him to have a more realistic vision of the Angolan problem, that he would support the peace initiatives, and that he might offer more pleasant prospects for the Angolan people. Instead, he was quite militaristic. He called for war at all costs, he urged mobilization (?of the forces). That speech was rather [words indistinct] MPLA-PT, so we are deeply disappointed, and I must say that Eduardo dos Santos' speech lacked vision.

[Correspondent] We know that the government is maintaining contacts with UNITA behind the scenes despite the harsh words. Can you confirm that?

[Valentim] Yes, I can confirm that. General Ben-Ben, our team chief, has been receiving phone calls from very important officials both in the Armed Forces and [words indistinct] the Armed Forces are very interested in peace in Angola.

[Correspondent] What is the content of those conversations?

[Valentim] They are intended to clarify the aims of UNITA's unilateral declaration of a UNITA cease-fire in situ and the steps which may be taken thereafter. (?I think) there is practical interest in peace for Angola.

[Correspondent] Do you think those contacts are occurring without the knowledge of President dos Santos and the government's military leadership?

[Valentim] Given that the MPLA-PT regime is totalitarian and highly centralized, nothing done on the phone goes unnoticed. Furthermore, no one is disclosing any secret. They are speaking quite openly.

[Correspondent] By that you seem to suggest that despite President dos Santos' bellicose words, the government does in fact support the peace initiatives advanced by UNITA.

[Valentim] [Words indistinct] the government, I am talking about those who are most directly involved in the conflict, those who are suffering most, those who are making war. Those people are interested in peace. [end recording]

UNITA's Ben-Ben, UN's Beye Say Abidjan Talks 'Positive'

MB1709085593 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 Sep 93

[Excerpts] Commander Arlindo Chenda Pena Ben-Ben, Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola chief of

General Staff and head of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] team to the talks with UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, says that those talks have been positive.

[Begin Ben-Ben recording] We are satisfied. It was really a new meeting [words indistinct] and we think that UN Special Representative Beye is willing to take our plan and add to it the necessary strength arising from UN responsibilities toward the Angolan peace process [words indistinct] cooperation so that the plan can work. He promised to present that plan to the government and promised to hold discussions with the government concerning the most practical [words indistinct] so we can really advance toward a definitive bilateral cease-fire [words indistinct] this is a unilateral cease-fire. He promised us support in his capacity as mediator [words indistinct]. [passage omitted] [end recording]

So, the ball is once again in Luanda's court, and it must now say whether it will negotiate, whether it will comply with the suspension of military hostilities. After the [words indistinct] of talks with the UNITA team, UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye told the media peace is now possible.

He described the talks as positive, useful, and constructive, adding they will open the door to resumed talks between UNITA and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party.

Foreign Minister Satisfied With UN Resolution on UNITA

MB1709100193 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 16 Sep 93

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Venancio de Moura has said the UN Security Council resolution adopted in New York at dawn today is a victory for the Angolan Government. He said that although the resolution does not include every viewpoint defended by the government, Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura believes that the arms and fuel embargo against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] is, in itself, very important. Now the ball is in UNITA's court: Either it lays down its arms and returns to the negotiating table, or as of 25 September it will feel the effects of the arms and fuel embargo. The UN Security Council has further stated that if UNITA does not lay down its arms the embargo will be reinforced with trade sanctions which will range from restricting the movements of UNITA officials abroad to freezing UNITA bank accounts. The UN Security Council has granted UNITA a 10-day moratorium for it to decide on the issue.

[Begin Moura recording] The 10-day grace period will also be a way to exert pressure on UNITA [words indistinct] secretary general himself, to create conditions for UNITA to change the behavior it has displayed so far. Should it fail to do so, in another 10 days—25 September—UNITA will start feeling the effects of the

sanctions on this list and of other sanctions that have been implied. Having said that, we can express our satisfaction with the fact that we have been able to ensure the approval of at least the list of those fundamental sanction points we proposed to the UN Security Council. [end recording]

The UN Security Council also decided to extend the UN Angola Verification Mission-II's mission in Angola for another three months. Resolution 864 was adopted in New York early this morning. It demands that UNITA comply with the Bicesse Accord, the electoral results, and previous UN Security Council resolutions. It also recommends that Savimbi's men withdraw from areas UNITA has occupied since the war resumed.

Cote d'Ivoire**Liberian NPFL Reportedly Attacks Village, Kills Refugee***AB1609174693 Paris AFP in French 1641 GMT
16 Sep 93*

[Text] Abidjan, 16 Sep (AFP)—Fighters of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL, main Liberian armed faction) late last night attacked an Ivorian village situated near the Liberian border and killed a Liberian refugee, a reliable source has announced in Abidjan.

First reports received this morning spoke of fighting between Liberian rival factions at the border. "The attack was carried out by a small group of NPFL fighters looking for foodstuffs. They entered the Pekan village near Toulepleu (520 kms north west of Abidjan) at 0400 [0400 GMT] and shot in the air. One Liberian refugee was killed," the source said. The assailants later returned to Liberia, taking away bags of rice.

Ivorian troops have been placed on alert along the border with Liberia. About 10 days ago, fighting broke out in this border area controlled by Charles Taylor's NPFL since 1990. A Liberian girl was killed and one refugee wounded near Toulepleu. The NPFL and its rival faction, the United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia, blamed each other for the fighting which was the first since the cease-fire came into force on 1 August.

About 250,000 Liberians have taken refuge in Cote d'Ivoire since the conflict broke out in 1989. Most of them have settled in about 460 villages near the border.

Liberia**Renewed Fighting Reported Near Ivorian Border***AB1609132893 Paris AFP in French 1228 GMT
16 Sep 93*

[Text] Abidjan, 16 Sep (AFP)—There was a renewed outbreak of fighting in Liberia late last night, near the Ivorian border, opposite Toulepleu village (520 km northeast of Abidjan), a reliable source disclosed in Abidjan. According to the source, this "sporadic fighting did not spill over into Ivorian territory," but "stray bullets did cross the border." The same source added that "several" unidentified "persons" died.

The fighting is reported to have flared up between National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] and United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia [ULIMO] soldiers. The source pointed out that the "fighting seemed to have stopped by 0900."

Ten days ago, fighting broke out in this border region. Ivorian authorities said a Liberian refugee camp near Toulepleu had been attacked with a small girl being killed and another wounded. This fighting, which the NPFL and ULIMO blamed on each other, was the first to be recorded since the cease-fire went into force in Liberia on 1 August.

NPFL Seeks End to Economic Embargo*AB1709140193 Paris AFP in English 1245 GMT
17 Sep 93*

[Text] Monrovia, 17 Sep (AFP)—Liberia's main armed faction Friday [17 September] called for an end to an economic embargo on territory under its control, insisting that a prolonged blockade was preventing relief supplies from getting through. A National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) official said the blockade, imposed last November by the Economic Community of West African States, was no longer justified because its forces were respecting a month-and-a-half-old ceasefire.

Samuel Dhokie, the faction's "interior minister" was quoted as saying the blockade was a "weapon of war against the NPFL," in a NPFL radio broadcast monitored here. "There are people who want to help Liberia, but can't because of the embargo," he said.

Warring parties in Liberia signed a peace accord last July, which stipulated that a ceasefire would take effect on August 1. Under the agreement all armed factions are to disarm and elections are to be held next February.

Nigeria**Aide Says No Babangida Intention To Contest Elections***AB1609212293 Lagos NTA Television Network in
English 2000 GMT 16 Sep 93*

[Text] Former President General Ibrahim Babangida, does not intend to contest future elections. A release issued and signed by Chief Duro Onabule, the chief press secretary to the former president, added that Gen. Babangida does not harbor any plan to return to public office. Chief Onabule was reacting to speculations being peddled about that because of the volume of visitors calling on Gen. Babangida in Minna, he intends to return to public office by contesting future presidential elections. The statement also disclosed that Gen. Babangida has not changed his mind about retiring into private life after eight years of service. Chief Onabule added that nothing has happened to make Gen. Babangida shift his position.

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